

## Committee on Agriculture, Financial Institutions and Insurance Wisconsin Senate Hearing

Senator Schultz, *chairperson;*Senators: Brown, Kedzie, Lassa, and Hansen, members

By: Christopher Sosnay

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## <u>Testimony in Support of Appointment of Deloris Sims of Milwaukee to the State</u> of Wisconsin Investment Board

Tuesday, July 29, 10 a.m. Room 330-SW, State Capitol

Good morning Chairman Schultz and members of the Committee on Agriculture, Financial Institutions and Insurance. My name is Christopher Sosnay and I am the Assistant Director of Government Relations for the Wisconsin Bankers Association.

This morning I am speaking in support of appointing Deloris Sims as a public member of the State of Wisconsin Investment Board of Trustees.

For more than 33 years, Mrs. Sims has worked in the banking industry. In addition to her vast and impressive work history, her volunteer experiences are equally impressive.

For 28 years, Mrs. Sims worked for the former Firstar Bank where she began her career as a part-time teller and worked her way up to the rank of vice president. She left the bank in 1998 to found the first Wisconsin chartered bank by African-American women – Legacy Bank. Mrs. Sims and her founders raised over six million in less than a year to capitalize the bank. The bank that is housed in a minority community, is also owned and managed predominantly by minorities.

While her work experience is obviously impressive, she also understands the importance of volunteering for the betterment of our society. Over the years, she has served in leadership roles with the YWCA of Metropolitan of Milwaukee, the House of Peace, the Milwaukee County Loan Revolving Committee, the Advisory Board of the Small Business Administration and the President of the African American Women, Ltd., to name just a few.

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Mrs. Sims extensive experience, well-rounded qualifications and her commitment to the financial services industry in Milwaukee and its minority community are the reasons she has earned the enthusiastic endorsement of the Wisconsin Bankers Association for this position on the State of Wisconsin Investment Board of Trustees.

Thank you.

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